NUMB. CVII.

The GUARDIAN.

——*tentanda via eſt*—— Vig.

Tueſday, July 14. 1713.

I Have lately entertained my Reader with two or three Letters from a Traveller, and may poſſibly, in ſome of my future Papers, oblige him with more from the ſame Hand. The following one comes from a Projector, which is a Sort of Correſpondent as diverting as a Traveller: His Subject having the ſame Grace of Novelty to recommend it, and being equally adapted to the Curioſity of the Reader. For my own Part, I have always had a particular Fondneſs for a Project, and may ſay, without Vanity, that I have a pretty tolerable Genius that way my ſelf. I could mention ſome which I have brought to Maturity, others which have miſcarried, and many more which I have yet by me and are to take their Fate in the World when I ſee a proper Juncture. I had a Hand in the Land-bank, and was conſulted with upon the Reformation of Manners. I have had ſeveral Deſigns upon the *Thames* and the *New-River*, not to mention my Refinements upon Lotteries and Inſurances, and that never-to-be-forgotten Project which, if it had ſucceeded to my Wiſhes, would have made Gold as plentiful in this Nation as Tinn or Copper. If my Countrymen have not reaped any Advantages from theſe my Deſigns, it was not for want of any good Will towards them. They are obliged to me for my kind Intentions as much as if they had taken Effect. Projects are of a two-fold Nature: The firſt ariſing from Publick-ſpirited Perſons, in which Number I declare my ſelf: The other proceeding from a Regard to our private Intereſt, of which Nature is that in the following Letter.

SIR,

'A Man of your Reading knows very well that 'there were a Sett of Men, in old *Rome*, 'called by the Name of *Nomenclators*, that is in '*Engliſh*, Men who could call every one by his 'Name. When a great Man ſtood for any pub-'lick Office, as that of a Tribune, a Conſul, or a 'Cenſor, he had always one of theſe *Nomenclators* 'at his Elbow, who whiſpered in his Ear the Name 'of every one he met with, and by that Means en-'abled him to ſalute every *Roman* Citizen by his 'Name when he asked him for his Vote. To come 'to my Purpoſe, I have with much Pains and Aſ-'ſiduity qualified my ſelf for a *Nomenclator* to this 'great City, and ſhall gladly enter upon my Office 'as ſoon as I meet with ſuitable Encouragement. 'I will let my ſelf out by the Week to any curi-'ous Country Gentleman or Foreigner. If he 'takes me with him in a Coach to the Ring, I 'will undertake to teach him, in two or three E-'venings, the Names of the moſt celebrated Per-'ſons who frequent that Place. If he plants me by 'his Side in the Pitt, I will call over to him, in the 'ſame manner, the whole Circle of Beauties that 'are diſpoſed among the Boxes, and at the ſame 'time point out to him the Perſons who ogle them 'from their reſpective Stations. I need not tell 'you that I may be of the ſame Uſe in any other 'publick Aſſembly. Nor do I only profeſs the 'teaching of Names but of Things. Upon the 'Sight of a reigning Beauty, I ſhall mention her 'Admirers, and diſcover her Gallantries, if they are 'of publick Notoriety. I ſhall likewiſe mark out 'every Toaſt, the Club in which ſhe was elected, 'and the number of Votes that were on her Side. 'Not a Woman ſhall be unexplained that makes a 'Figure either as a Maid, a Wife, or a Widow. 'The Men too ſhall be ſet out in their diſtinguiſh-'ing Characters, and declared whoſe Properties 'they are. Their Wit, Wealth, or good Humour, 'their Perſons, Stations, and Titles, ſhall be de-'ſcribed at large.

'I have a Wife who is a *Nomenclatreſs*, and 'will be ready, on any Occaſion, to attend the 'Ladies. She is of a much more communicative 'Nature than my ſelf, and is acquainted with all 'the private Hiſtory of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, 'and ten Miles round. She has fifty private A-'mours which no Body yet knows any thing of 'but her ſelf, and thirty clandeſtine Marriages that 'have not been touched by the tip of a Tongue. 'She will wait upon any Lady at her own Lodg-'ings, and talk by the Clock after the Rate of 'three Guineas an Hour.

N. B. 'She is a near Kinſwoman of the Au-'thor of the *new Atalantis*.

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(Price Two Pence.)